THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No Sir, the percentage of recruitment of soldiers in the Army has not gone down after adoption of the policy of Recruitable Male Population.

(b) No such formal request has been received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh in the recent past.

(c) Does not arise.

Revamping the Home Ministry

339. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seriously thinking of revamping the Home Ministry for effective handing of the increasingly complex internal security situation in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such changes; and

(c) whether the proposed changes are in compliance with the recommendations made by the GOM constituted to look into the internal security system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) the Group of Minister has, *inter-alia*, made the following recommendations relating to Ministry of Home Affairs:—

(i) The Department of Internal Security should be strengthened and should function directly under the Home Secretary. Additional staff should be given to this Department;

(ii) A Policy Planning Division should be set up with a view to developing a 'vision' in matter relating to internal security;

(iii) There is need to further improve the public relations set up and a plan of action may be evolved for this purpose;

(iv) Home Secretary should be assisted by two Staff Officers for timely attention to and pursuit of important matters;

(v) A separate Department of Border Management may be created under the overall charge of the Home Secretary. It should monitor, coordinate and oversee border management.

A detailed proposal covering the above mentioned recommendations has been worked out. Pending sanction of additional officers and staff for implementing the recommendations of the Group of Ministries, two new divisions, namely, Border Management, Policy Planning and Intelligence Processing Divisions have been created in the Ministry by giving additional charge to some officers and providing minimum skeletal staff through internal adjustment.

Setting guidelines for holding international conferences

340. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has issued a circular setting guidelines for holding international conferences in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the participants have to obtain clearance from both Home Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry for their participation;

(c) if so, the details of such a circular; and

(d) the reasons for issuing such a circular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The existing guidelines govering this matter were revised on 1st September, 2000 in order to simplify and liberalize the procedure.

(b) No, Sir. Clearance is required from Ministry of Home